

Dear Parent/Guardian & Intermediate Students:

I hope this letter finds you and your family enjoying a safe, relaxing summer. In this letter you will find information regarding the start of the new school year.

Information on School Events & Updates

Throughout the year updates on school events, including daily announcements, will be available on the school website at <https://ldhss.ocdsb.ca/>. Communication between school and home is extremely important to support student learning. If you wish to speak with a teacher, please either email the teacher directly, or call the school's main number 613.843.7722 to leave a message. All staff emails are listed on the school website. Teachers strive to call home with success stories, or in the event that concerns arise.

Classroom Assignments

Families should receive an email by Friday, September 2nd with their child's class placement, as well as the name of their homeroom teacher.

First Day of School

On Tuesday, Sept. 6 all intermediate students are asked to go to the back of the building where there will be pylons with homeroom names. If your child is unsure of who their teacher is, there will be many staff onsite to help guide them to the correct location.

Due to the number of students we have at Longfields Davidson Heights, we are asking parents to refrain from coming into the back of the building as students get organized into their classes.

Presto Passes - School Transportation

If your child is eligible for school provided transportation, they will receive a Presto Pass directly to access OC Transpo buses. Please note that the Ottawa Student Transportation Authority (OSTA) determines eligibility and will send passes to be distributed during the first week of school. Until that time, please have alternate arrangements in place for your student to get to school.

School Day Schedule

Tuesday, September 6, 2022 (Cafeteria will be open). Please note that the cafeteria food service will only be available for intermediate students during their first nutrition break.

The regular schedule of classes is the following:

Grade 7 & 8 Schedule (Within each block are subject periods of 40 or 60 minutes)

8:55 - 10:55 a.m. – Block One

10:55 - 11:35 a.m. – Recess

11:35 - 1:35 p.m. – Block Two

1:35 - 2:15 p.m. – Recess

2:15 - 3:15 p.m. – Block Three

Friday, September 9, 2022 -- "First Friday" – wear purple!

Please watch the school website for alterations to the schedule, which allow teachers to balance days missed due to holidays or PD days.

OTHER IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Medical Forms

This year we are completing the grade 7 / 8 forms process online. This process is now electronic-click [here!](#)

Please complete the new [OCDSB 963 - PLAN OF CARE FOR STUDENTS](#) if your child has any medical conditions(including administration of medication, e.g. Ibuprofen).

This one new document covers all previous medical forms required for students at our school and OSTA (bussing- if consent is provided).

This electronic form does not require a doctor's signature. Please remember to "SAVE" at the end of the form once completed. Once the form is saved, a copy of the form will be sent to the school for our records, no paper copy is required.

If we have any questions or concerns in regards to your submission we will contact you directly.

Online Payments for School Activities

We will be offering online payment ('School Cash Online') as the preferred method of payment for school fees, including fees for the Student Activity Fee (see below), yearbooks, field trips, course enhancement fees, etc.

School Cash Online helps parents and community members pay school-related fees safely, quickly, and easily. By using School Cash Online, you help increase efficiency and security by making payments directly into the LDHSS bank account. The system ensures that you will have a readily available record of all purchases that you have made for your child. Register [here](#).

Student Activity Fee

The student activity fee supports many extra-curricular activities, including student ID cards, some field trip expenses, intramurals, Student Council activities (including First Friday, school dances, Celebr8), guest speakers, student financial aid, art & music programs, physical education costs, environmental activities, and Commencement related activities etc. The Student Activity Fee is a voluntary fee. It is solely used for expenses directly related to students,

and never used for expenses related to staff or school operation. Intermediate students can pay their student fees to their homeroom teacher starting on Wednesday, September 7th.

A family discount is offered to parents with 2 or more children at LDH:

\$20 – student fees – one student in the family

\$35 – student fees – two students in the family

\$50 – student fees – three or more students in the family

** Families requiring financial assistance for this, or for other fees, should contact Mark Harris, Principal.

Student Agendas

Student agendas are available for students who request them. This is a handy organizational tool that can assist students in keeping track of their schedule, homework, and assignments. It is free to any intermediate student who requests one.

School Supplies – All Grades

Each teacher will identify the specific supplies that students will be required to bring for their class. However, there are some items such as pens, pencils, eraser, lined paper, binders etc. which will be needed for all classes. Feel free to purchase basic supplies before school begins. For other supplies we recommend that you wait until school begins to find out the specific items your child's teacher asks for. The City of Ottawa also provides information about assistance available for families in need, for the purchase of school supplies. Dial '2-1-1' to reach a City of Ottawa employee who can provide you with information about the community organization best suited to help.

Lockers

Grade 7 and 8 students will be assigned lockers by their homeroom teacher, in designated areas.

Students should not give their combinations out to friends. Intermediate students are required to provide their lock combinations to their teacher. This is important for students who may be absent and need work from their lockers, or for students who forget their combination. Combination locks are available for purchase from the school office for \$5.00.

School Council

The School Council provides an opportunity for parents and guardians to consult on issues affecting students at our school. School Councils advise the Principal and School Board on specific issues of school operations. Our first school council meeting will take place on Tuesday September 27, 2022. The School Council executive will be selected at the first meeting. Nomination forms will be available on the school website in early September.

Upcoming Dates to Remember

Below you will find a tentative schedule of upcoming activities and events. Please watch for updates on the school website.

Tuesday, September 6 First Day of School

Wednesday and Thursday, September 14 & 15 Picture Day

Thursday, September 22 Meet the Teacher – Grades 7 & 8

Tuesday, September 27 First School Council meeting

Friday, October 7 PA Day (all students)

Monday, October 10 Thanksgiving Holiday - no school

Thank you for entrusting your child to LDHSS. We look forward to working with you in the 2022-2023 school year.